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UA19/17/1/1 Baseball Media Guide

WKU Athletic Media Relations

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1973 BASEBALL SCHEDULE

Date	Opponent	Site
March 21	Louisville (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
March 24	Lipscomb (2)	Nashville, Tenn.
March 26	Kentucky Wesleyan (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
March 29	Kentucky (2)	Lexington, Ky.
March 30	Southern Illinois (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
March 31	Middle Tennessee (2)	Murfreesboro, Tenn.
April 1	Tennessee Tech (2)	Cookeville, Tenn.
April 3	Campbellsville (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
April 4	Louisville (2)	Louisville, Ky.
April 6	Bellarmine (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
April 8	Murray (2)	Murray, Ky.
April 14	Austin Peay (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
April 15	Vanderbilt (2)	Nashville, Tenn.
April 17	Tennessee Tech (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
April 18	Centre (2)	Danville, Ky.
April 21	Morehead (2)	Bowling Green, Ky.
April 23	Bellarmine (2)	Louisville, Ky.
April 24	Campbellsville (2)	Campbellsville, Ky.

All home doubleheaders start at 1 p.m., Central Time.

1972 SPRING RESULTS

	WKU	OPP.
May 21	4	Wittenburg University 12
23	2	Austin Peay State University 1
23	0	Austin Peay State University 12
30	6	Tennessee Tech 2
30	2	Tennessee Tech 8
31	8	Capital University 3
31	6	Capital University 5
April 4	0	Vanderbilt University 4
5	6	Campbellsville College 4
5	5	Campbellsville College 3
11	4	Tennessee Tech 2
11	6	Tennessee Tech 1
16	8	Middle Tennessee State University 1
17	4	Austin Peay State University 2
17	3	Austin Peay State University 6
18	4	Vanderbilt University 5
19	6	Centre College 1
19	7	Centre College 5
20	5	David Lipscomb College 4
24	6	Middle Tennessee State University 2
26	4	Eastern Kentucky University 5
26	0	Eastern Kentucky University 1
27	2	Murray State University 3
29	3	Southern Illinois University 8
29	3	Southern Illinois University 6
		Won 14, Lost 11

1972 FALL RESULTS

	WKU	OPP.
Sept. 22	4	Eastern Kentucky University 5
22	7	Eastern Kentucky University 0
26	3	Eastern Kentucky University 2
26	0	Eastern Kentucky University 1
Oct. 2	3	Tennessee Tech 1
2	11	Tennessee Tech 5
3	5	Morehead State University 4
3	1	Morehead State University 2
7	10	Middle Tennessee State University 4
7	3	Middle Tennessee State University 2
9	2	Tennessee Tech 1
9	7	Tennessee Tech 1
14	0	Murray State University 2
14	3	Murray State University 9
22	1	Austin Peay State University 2
22	5	Austin Peay State University 2
		Won 10, Lost 6

HILLTOPPER

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

BASEBALL

1973



OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS



WESTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS



JIM PICKENS Head Coach



the Detroit Tigers organization.

Pickens came to Western in the fall of 1965 after a sparkling coaching career in the high school ranks, where he fashioned championship teams in both baseball and football. In six seasons at Bowling Green High School, his baseball teams won 118 games while losing only 20, a percentage of .855. He climaxed his coaching stint there by guiding the Purples to the State Championship in 1965.

Before coaching at Bowling Green, Pickens held similar positions at Danville and Elizabethtown High Schools. Over a 15-year span, his high school teams won 221 victories against just 59 losses, a .789 percentage.

After suffering through three rather lean seasons in rebuilding Western's baseball fortunes, Pickens' last four Hilltopper clubs have been among the most respected in the OVC. His 1969 team won the Western Division championship.

Pickens' overall Western record, going into the 1973 campaign, shows 107 wins, 99 losses and three ties.

In addition to his coaching duties, Pickens is Director of University Centers. He received the B.S. and M.A. degrees from Western in 1951 and 1962, respectively.

BUCK SYDNOR Assistant Coach



Buck Sydnor is starting his second season as assistant baseball coach. He became Jim Pickens' assistant coach in the spring of 1972 after spending six seasons as a basketball assistant coach under John Oldham.

Sydnor, a star on Western's first two National Invitation Tournament basketball teams in 1942 and 1943, joined the Western staff in 1964.

Buck was a veteran of 15 years of high school basketball coaching at Daviess County, Hopkinsville, and Bowling Green High Schools when he came to Western.

His Hilltopper basketball freshmen, over six seasons (1965-71), won 62 and lost 50 while playing some of the toughest schedules ever faced by the Western frosh.

Sydnor received his B.S. and M.A. degrees from Western Kentucky in 1948 and 1949, respectively.

1973 OUTLOOK

Coach Jim Pickens is very optimistic about his team having an outstanding 1973 spring season.

Discussing his team's chances of an Ohio Valley Conference Western Division title, Coach Pickens said, "This team has the best overall balance we have had since I came here. In the past, we had good hitting, but no pitching, or the other way around. If this team plays the level of ball they are capable of playing, we can compete with anybody."

Western's baseball schedule has been expanded and the Toppers are now playing a fall schedule in addition to the annual spring slate. Under this new system, the Hilltoppers played six conference games last fall and will play six more this spring.

Last fall, Western finished with a 3-3 record in conference play, tying Austin Peay for second place, two games behind Murray State in the OVC's Western Division. The Hilltoppers finished with a 10-6 overall record and Pickens rates this a successful start.

During the fall schedule, the team batted .298 and posted an earned run average of 2.01. Commenting on those statistics, Pickens said, "This team fundamentally is sound; my boys can hit, pitch, and field. If our kids can maintain the offense and pitching we had this fall, and hopefully improve in some areas, we could be a championship team."

A strong pitching staff is led by sophomore Jeff Ralph and freshman Lewis Key. Ralph has won three games without a defeat, while Key has allowed only three earned runs in 22 2/3 innings, an earned run average of 1.19. Other standouts have been Dave Mullendore, a freshman from Bowling Green, and juniors Greg Stahl and Mike Grubb.

The men that swing the big bats are led by outfielder Steve Long, who got 20 hits in 45 times at bat for a .444 average; sophomore Steve Keck, who batted .371; and Steve Tate, a junior who hit .356 last fall.

The only player on the spring roster who did not play in the fall is Leo Peckenpau. During the autumn months, Leo is the starting quarterback on the varsity football squad. Pickens remarked, "Leo, a pitcher and outfielder, is a competitor, and swings a good bat for us. He is a tough out at the plate and is a sound college ballplayer."

FINAL 1972 FALL STANDINGS

OVC Western Division

	W	L	Pct.
Murray State University	5	1	.833
Western Kentucky	3	3	.500
Austin Peay State	3	3	.500
Middle Tennessee State	1	5	.167

UNIVERSITY INFORMATION

Location: Bowling Green, Kentucky
Conference: Ohio Valley, NCAA
Nickname: Hilltoppers Colors: Red and White
President: Dr. Dero G. Downing Enrollment: 11,535
Chairman, University Athletic Committee: Dr. John Minton
Athletic Director: John Oldham
Baseball Coach: Jim Pickens
Baseball Assistant Coach: Buck Sydnor
Athletic Office Phone: (502) 745-3542 or 745-3348
Home Field: Nick Denes Field

-FOR INFORMATION ON ALL SPORTS-
Assistant Public Relations Director: Ed Given
Phone: 745-4295

1972 FALL STATISTICS

BATTING

PLAYER	G	AB	H	R	RBI	BB	SAC	HP	1B	2B	3B	HR	TB	SLUG. PCT.	SB	SO	AVG
Bill Moore	5	8	5	0	2	1	0	0	5	0	0	0	5	.625	0	0	.625
Jeff Ralph	4	10	5	2	2	2	1	0	5	0	0	0	5	.500	1	2	.500
Greg Shelton	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	.500	0	0	.500
Steve Long	15	45	20	10	7	6	1	0	13	5	1	1	30	.667	1	5	.444
Steve Keck	11	35	13	7	5	1	1	0	7	3	2	1	23	.657	0	7	.371
Steve Tate	16	45	16	4	9	6	0	1	14	2	0	0	18	.400	1	6	.356
Jack Glasser	12	35	12	4	5	5	2	1	12	0	0	0	12	.343	0	4	.343
Lewis Key	6	6	2	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	3	.500	0	2	.333
Wayne Wright	5	9	3	1	3	3	1	0	1	1	1	0	6	.667	1	2	.333
Neal Mills	16	49	15	12	9	9	1	0	12	3	0	0	18	.367	2	5	.306
Bill Strong	16	41	12	6	8	4	2	2	7	4	0	1	19	.463	2	11	.293
Ken Justak	14	46	13	6	0	5	1	0	11	0	2	0	17	.378	0	0	.283
Dave Conter	14	38	9	5	5	4	3	0	7	1	1	0	12	.316	0	9	.237
Jim Feix	3	9	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	.222	0	2	.222
Rick Goff	10	13	0	3	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	1	0	.000
Paul Merrill	8	6	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	.000
Randy Morton	6	10	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	3	.000
Mike Grubb	6	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	4	.000
Dave Mullendore	4	5	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	3	.000
Greg Stahl	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	2	.000
Jim Pentaudi	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	.000
Bill Embry	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	.000
Rob Parrent	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	.000
Bill Scheckles	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	1	.000
TOTALS	16	430	128	65	56	56	16	4	98	20	7	3	171	.399	9	72	.298
OPPONENTS TOTALS	16	420	94	43	35	53	8	7	74	13	6	1	122	.290	16	72	.224

LEADERS

BATTING

Steve Long



PITCHING

Lewis Key



PITCHING

PLAYER	G	GS	GC	IP	ER	ERA	H	R	BB	SO	WP	HB	BK	RECORD	SAVES
Rob Parrent	2	0	0	6 2/3	0	0.00	2	0	3	3	0	0	0	1-0	0
Greg Shelton	2	0	0	5 1/3	0	0.00	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	2-0	0
Lewis Key	6	2	1	22 2/3	3	1.19	18	7	5	14	0	1	0	1-1	1
Dave Mullendore	4	3	2	18 1/3	3	1.47	18	9	8	7	1	0	0	1-3	0
Greg Stahl	4	2	1	11 2/3	2	1.55	11	4	4	9	1	0	0	1-0	0
Jeff Ralph	4	4	2	24 1/3	8	2.96	26	11	12	13	1	4	2	3-0	0
Mike Grubb	5	4	3	21 1/3	8	3.38	18	11	12	22	1	2	0	1-2	0
Bill Scheckles	2	1	0	1 2/3	1	6.00	1	1	6	1	1	0	0	0-0	0
TOTALS	16	16	9	112	25	2.01	94	43	53	72	5	7	2	10-6	1
OPPONENTS TOTALS	16	16	11	110	52	4.25	128	65	56	72	7	4	2	6-10	0

1973 HILLTOPPERS



First row: Wayne Wright, Steve Tate, Greg Stahl, Bill Moore, Paul Merrill, Ken Justak, Lewis Key, Bill Strong. Second row: Jeff Ralph, Greg Shelton, Jack Glasser, Neal Mills, Dave Mullendore, Bill Scheckles, Manager John Leonard. Third row: Mike Grubb, Steve Keck, Bill Embry, Manager Mike Whittaker, Leo Peckenpau, Coach Jim Pickens.

BASEBALL ROSTER

Number	Name	Position	HGT.	WGT.	B-T	Class	Hometown
1	Wayne Wright	C	5-9	150	L-R	Fr.	Hopkinsville, Ky.
2	Jim Feix	C	5-11	160	R-R	Fr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
3	Steve Tate	Inf	5-9	165	R-R	Jr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
4	Greg Stahl	P	5-10	170	R-R	Jr.	Leitchfield, Ky.
5	Bill Moore	OF	5-11	170	L-R	Fr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
7	Paul Merrill	OF	5-10	165	R-R	Jr.	Louisville, Ky.
8	Ken Justak	Inf	5-10	160	L-R	Jr.	Whiting, Ind.
9	Lewis Key	P	6-0	170	R-R	Fr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
10	Bill Strong	Inf	5-11	175	R-R	Sr.	Owensboro, Ky.
12	Jeff Ralph	P	5-11	165	R-R	So.	Owensboro, Ky.
13	Greg Shelton	P	5-10	150	L-L	So.	Lewisburg, Ky.
14	Jack Glasser	C	5-10	165	R-R	Sr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
15	Neal Mills	Inf	5-11	165	R-R	Jr.	Greensburg, Ky.
16	Dave Mullendore	P	6-3	185	R-R	Fr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
17	Bill Scheckles	P	5-10	160	R-R	Fr.	Bardstown, Ky.
19	Mike Grubb	P-OF	6-1	190	L-L	Jr.	South Lebanon, Ohio
21	Steve Keck	OF	5-9	170	L-L	So.	Bowling Green, Ky.
23	Steve Long	Inf	5-11	175	R-R	Sr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
24	Rob Parrent	P	6-0	180	R-L	Jr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
25	Rick Parrent	P	6-0	180	R-R	Jr.	Bowling Green, Ky.
26	Bill Embry	C	6-0	190	R-R	Jr.	Leitchfield, Ky.
28	Leo Peckenpau	P-OF	6-1	180	R-R	Jr.	Henderson, Ky.